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**RODGERS**

PROMOTING INTERNET FREEDOM AND INNOVATION ACT

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H.R. 1096 is based on a bipartisan bill that was passed and signed into law in Washington state in 2018. This legislation, like the Washington state law, bars internet service providers from blocking websites or charging more for faster delivery of certain sites in a way that benefits the broadband company and partner websites.

**Need for a Federal Legislative Fix:**

In 2015, the Obama FCC imposed utility-style regulations under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934 on Internet Service Providers (ISPs). These Title II regulations hampered innovation and reduced broadband investment in the areas of the country that need it most. While these rules were overturned by the FCC in 2017, outstanding litigation, Democratic legislation, and a change in FCC leadership all threaten a return to the Title II rules in the future.

In order to provide certainty to the Internet ecosystem, encourage robust investment in broadband deployment, and protect consumers a permanent federal legislative solution is needed to stop this endless regulatory back and forth.

The Washington state statute received overwhelming bipartisan support, and for legislators serious about a statutory solution, this bill can also serve as a Federal statute rather than a patchwork of dozens of competing State laws.

**The Federal Solution:**

The Net Neutrality principles in *The Promoting Internet Freedom and Innovation Act (H.R. 1096)* parallels what was enacted in Washington State.

It gives clear authority to the FCC to enforce these principles, without Title II:

- **Transparency** – broadband providers publicly disclose accurate information regarding their services
- **No Blocking** – may not block lawful content, applications, services or devices
- **No Throttling** – may not degrade or impair lawful internet traffic regardless of the apps, services or devices a consumer may use
- **No Paid Prioritization** – may not favor certain traffic for a broadband provider's own benefit

For the sake of consumers and future innovation, it is past time to settle this debate with a permanent federal legislative fix and start looking at policies to encourage the technological innovations of the future such as 5G, AI, Smart Cities, and Autonomous Vehicles.